

REMARKS

The application has been amended as needed so as to place it in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

The Official Action had objected to the use of "the invention" in the Abstract of the Disclosure. Accordingly, there is submitted herewith an amended Abstract of the Disclosure, which is believed to comply with 37 CFR §1.72(b) and Section 608.01(b) of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP).

In addition, the Official Action had objected to the disclosure, as it made reference to specific claims. By the present amendment, it will be seen that the specification has been amended to delete any specific reference to specific claims. Accordingly, it is believed that the objection to the disclosure has been overcome.

The Official Action had also objected to Figures 5 and 6 of the drawings, as they were not accompanied by a legend such as --Prior Art--. By the present amendment, as was indicated above, replacement sheets for Figures 5 and 6 have been provided, which include the legend --Prior Art--.

Claims 10 and 12 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art in view of KASHIMA et al. 6,152,453. The Official Action concludes that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art as a matter

of design choice to have modified the admitted prior art by utilizing a synthetic mica filler as a selection of a known material based upon its suitability for the intended use as evidenced by KASHIMA et al.

Reconsideration of the above rejection is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

By the present amendment, claims 10-13, 18-21 and 26 have been canceled without prejudice, thereby obviating and rendering moot this particular ground of rejection.

The Primary Examiner had kindly indicated that claims 14-17 and 22-25 stood allowed.

Since only allowed claims remain pending in this application, it is believed that this application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are accordingly earnestly solicited.

In the event that there are any questions relating to this amendment or to the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that the prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Application No. 10/087,770
Amdt. dated November 17, 2003
Reply to Office Action of September 3, 2003
Docket No. 8035-1003

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 CFR §1.16 or under 37 CFR §1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX:

The Appendix includes the following items:

- amended Abstract of the Disclosure
- replacement sheets for Figures 5 and 6a-6d of the drawings

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Provided is a gasket capable of maintaining a high sealing property under a high temperature, in which a gasket basic substance and coverture are not sublimated or decomposed when the gasket is used under a high temperature above 500°C. The gasket for a high-temperature joint ~~of this invention~~ includes a gasket basic substance formed by filling a heat-resistant filler mainly composed of diatomaceous earth into gaps of a meshed metallic reinforcing member, and coverture made of a heat-resistant antifriction material mainly composed of a mixture of boron nitride and polytetrafluoroethylene resin for covering a surface of the gasket basic substance.

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